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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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| COUNTRY | USSR (Azerbaijani SSR) | REPORT NO. | | 50X1 |
| SUBJECT | Medical Treatment and Medical Inspection of Quarters, Food, and Water in the Soviet Border Guard Troops | DATE DISTR. | 12 July 1955 | |
| | | NO. OF PAGES | 3 | |
| DATE OF INFO. | | REQUIREMENT NO. | | 50X1 |
| PLACE ACQUIRED | | REFERENCES | | |
| DATE ACQUIRED | | | | |

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

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REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

50X1

COUNTRY USSR

DATE DISTR. 13 June 1955

SUBJECT Medical Treatment and Medical Inspection of
Quarters, Food, and Water in the Soviet Border,
Guard Troops 50X1

NO. OF PAGES 2

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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Medical Treatment

1. [REDACTED] received shots only during basic training in Lenkoran (N 38-45, E 48-50); he received about three shots but does not know what they were for. He never required medical attention but observed the procedure for those who required it. 50X1
2. [REDACTED] had no medical personnel other than an EM who had received a few hours of first aid instruction and who only knew how to apply a bandage. When a border guard EM became ill, but did not seem to be suffering from a serious ailment, the zastava CO merely excused him from duties and details and gave him permission to rest. When a soldier appeared to be more seriously ill, he was sent to the komendatura to be examined by a feldsher; there was no doctor attached to the komendatura. When the komendatura feldsher found the EM to be very ill, he sent the EM to the doctor at otryad headquarters [REDACTED], where adequate medical facilities were available. Komendatura feldshers never wanted to assume any unnecessary responsibility in the case of seriously ill soldiers and, therefore, readily sent them to otryad headquarters for treatment. Feldshers were held responsible when anything serious happened to an ill soldier. 50X1

Medical Inspection of Quarters, Food, and Water

3. [REDACTED] never observed any medical inspection of quarters. However, he observed fairly regular food inspections [REDACTED]. Although he could give no specific schedules for these food inspections, he described the procedure as follows: Occasionally, the otryad senior doctor, a border guard major, visited the otryad kitchen to inspect the food. On days when the doctor did not appear in the kitchen, the otryad cook placed some food in a glass dish and sent it to the doctor at the dispensary where he inspected it. [REDACTED] not sure that this procedure was followed daily or whether the doctor was required to inspect the food in the kitchen or sample it at his office. [REDACTED] of the doctor's rejecting any food because, [REDACTED] this would have meant throwing out all the food that was already prepared and this would have been considered unnecessary waste. 50X1

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4. Occasionally, the staff officer of the day (dezhurnyy po shtabu) or the otryad CO paid a short visit to the otryad kitchen to examine the food and to watch its preparation. Sometimes, the staff officer of the day even visited the EM messhall and asked some of the EM their opinion of the food. Invariably, the EM answered "fine, sir" ("tak tochno khorosho") so that they could not be accused of criticizing the food served to the Soviet armed forces. 1

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5. [redacted] a feldsher inspected the kitchen for cleanliness. Occasionally, [redacted] the komendatura chief of staff in the kitchen and messhall, both of which were in the same building, tasting a spoonful of food to be served to the soldiers, [redacted] this chief of staff seemed to be satisfied with the food. [redacted] no one inspected the food and, [redacted] he never 50X1 witnessed any inspection of water at otryad, komendatura, or zastava levels.

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1. [redacted]

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